

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
NSC-05 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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INFO CSCE CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4140

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GDS

SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: JUNE 20

REF: BELGRADE 4108

EUR/RPM

FROM USDEL CSCE

SUMMARY: MORNING AND AFTERNOON DISCUSSIONS JUNE 20 OF US/UK AND SOVIET PROPOSALS ON AGENDA FOR MAIN MEETING BROUGHT NO MOVEMENT TOWARD COMPROMISE. NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED ARE SEEKING BEHIND SCENES, HOWEVER, TO DEVELOP COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OF THEIR OWN. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MORNING SESSION, MANY NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED (NNA) DELS GAVE PRESENTATIONS WHICH WERE CLOSE TO THE US/UK PROPOSAL WITHOUT ACTUALLY ENDORSING IT. THIS GROUP, INCLUDING AUSTRIA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, SPAIN, MALTA, YUGOSLAVIA, AND ALSO ROMANIA, GENERALLY, CRITICIZED ANY APPROACH TO THE AGENDA WHICH CONSISTED MERELY OF A QUOTE TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM THE FINAL ACT AND OMITTED AGENDA
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ITEM ON POST-BELGRADE FOLLOW-UP. MOST OF THESE DELS OUTLINED A THREE-POINT AGENDA WHICH PARALLELED AGENDA IN US/UK PAPER. US REP (SHERER) REITERATED SUPPORT FOR US/UK PROPOSAL AND URGED THAT ALL DELEGATIONS GIVE IT SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. BULGARIAN, CZECHOSLOVAK, GDR, AND SOVIET DELS SUPPORTED SOVIET PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS CIRCULATED JUNE 20 IN FORM OF TEXT OF VORONTSOV STATEMENT OF

JUNE 17 (REFTEL) WITH FIRST PARAGRAPH OMITTED.

2. IN AFTERNOON SESSION, ALL EC-9 DELS AND CANADA SPOKE IN FAVOR OF US/UK AGENDA, WHILE HUNGARIAN DEL SUPPORTED SOVIET DRAFT AND ROMANIAN DEL CRITICIZED ANY AGENDA WHICH WOULD INDICATED THAT BELGRADE MEETING SHOULD BE RESTRICTED TO "EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" AND REACH NO DECISIONS. DANISH, FRENCH, AND DUTCH DELS POINTED OUT IN REPLY THAT US/UK PAPER FORESEES NEW PROPOSALS AND THUS IMPLIES THAT SOME DECISIONS WILL BE TAKEN.

3. SOVIET REP (VORONTSOV) GAVE NO INDICATION OF FLEXIBILITY IN SOVIET PROPOSAL. HE ARGUED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE MAIN MEETING, HAVING BEEN FIXED ALREADY IN THE FINAL ACT, OUGHT NOT TO BE A PRIMARY CONCERN OF PREPARATORY MEETING. INSTEAD, PREPARATORY MEETING SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNED WITH ITEMS WHICH HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED AT GENEVA AND, THEREFORE, HAD NO PRECEDENTS, NAMELY, ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND DURATION OF THE MAIN MEETING. SOVIET REP REMAINED SILENT WHEN ROMANIANS SOUGHT TO PROBE WHETHER SOVIETS ENVISAGED THAT MAIN MEETING WOULD BE ONLY CONSULTATIVE OR WOULD BE EMPOWERED TO TAKE SOME DECISIONS.

4. FOLLOWING CLOSE OF AFTERNOON MEETING, NATO, WP, AND NNA GROUPS HELD CAUCUSES. NNA'S ARE TRYING TO DRAFT A CONFIDENTIAL

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COMPROMISE PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD PARALLEL US/UK DRAFT BUT WOULD RELATE FIRST TWO AGENDA ITEMS MORE CLOSELY. ALLIES CONSIDERED PUTTING AGENDA ASIDE TEMPORARILY AND MOVING ON TO DISCUSSION OF MODALITIES, BUT DECIDED AGAINST THIS COURSE, AT LEAST FOR NOW, SINCE IT WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE WEST IS IN A HURRY. NNA DRAFT WILL PROBABLY TAKE A FEW DAYS TO EMERGE, HOWEVER, AND ALLIES WILL REVIEW SITUATION IN LIGHT OF EVENTS LATER IN WEEK.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, POLICIES, MEETING AGENDA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA04140
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770220-0104
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770641/aaaabjsz.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELGRADE 4108
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2100512
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: JUNE 20
TAGS: PORG, UR, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7d5d827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009